

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 9, please amend the last paragraph as follows:

The prices are plotted in FIG. 5 for store 1 (504), store 2 (508), store 3 (512), and store 4 (516) with the price of item X plotted along the horizontal axis and the price of item Y plotted along the vertical axis. A distance may be calculated by:

Distance = $\sqrt{(Price_{s,x} - Price_{s,x})^2 + (Price_{s,y} - Price_{s,y})^2}$, where s is for one of the stores}

$Distance = \sqrt{(Price_{s1,x} - Price_{s2,x})^2 + (Price_{s1,y} - Price_{s2,y})^2}$, where s1 and s2 is

one of the store pairs. This distance may be calculated between all possible store pair combinations. Table 2 illustrates the distances for all pairings.